

News Release

News Media Contact:

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For Release: December 8, 2015

Durham Offers Free Environmental Job Training

Applications Accepted Until January 8

DURHAM, N.C. – Durham residents interested in receiving certifications needed for full-time employment in the environmental field should apply now for the <u>City of Durham's Environmental</u> Workforce Development and Job Training Program.

The 12-week free training program, provided through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will teach the skills needed to secure full-time employment in the environmental field, including assessment and cleanup. This no-cost training will provide certifications that allow participants to qualify as environmental technicians for employment in recycling, wastewater treatment, or the construction industries.

Certifications include wastewater treatment plant operator, 40–hour hazardous waste operations and emergency response (HAZWOPER), asbestos worker abatement, lead worker abatement, 10–hour Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) for general industry, and first aid/CPR.

Classes begin on Monday, February 1, 2016, and will meet from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, on the main campus of Durham Technical Community College. Applications are now available on the City's website and are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, January 8, 2016.

Residents interested in speaking with City staff about this training program are invited to information sessions at <u>Durham Technical Community College Main Campus Building #6, Room 603</u>. The dates and times for the information sessions are as follows:

- Wednesday, December 9 from 10 a.m. noon
- Wednesday, December 9 from 4 p.m. 6 p.m.
- Thursday, January 7 from 2 p.m. 4 p.m.
- Friday, January 8 from 10 a.m. noon

For more information contact Jennifer Jones, adult employment program coordinator with the City's Office of Economic and Workforce Development, by <u>email</u> or by calling (919) 560-4965, ext. 15218.

About the City of Durham Office of Economic and Workforce Development

Guided by the City's <u>Strategic Plan</u>, the <u>Office of Economic and Workforce Development</u> helps ensure that Durham has a strong and diverse economy by increasing the city's tax base through several revitalization initiatives, including new development efforts in the central city area. The department also plans and promotes cultural awareness and events, identifies and recruits target industries as well as assesses and trains Durham residents to fill new jobs.

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